

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 26th November 1887.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....
2	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
4	"Goura Duta"	Maldah	.....
5	"Purva Bangabasi"	Noakhally	.....
6	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
7	"Silchar"	Silchar, Assam	.....
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	
10	"Bangabasi"	Calcutta	20,000	19th November 1887.
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	302	15th ditto.
12	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	506	14th ditto.
13	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong	.....	8th and 16th November 1887.
14	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	450	23rd November 1887.
15	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore	.....	11th ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	
17	"Garib and Mahavidya"	Dacca	.....	16th ditto.
18	"Grambasi"	Uluberia	.....
19	"Hindu Ranjika"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	16th ditto.
20	"Murshidabad Patrika"	Berhampore	508	
21	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....	18th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week
BENGALI—concluded.				
Weekly—concluded.				
22	"Navavibhākar Sādhārānī"	Calcutta ...	1,000	21st November 1887.
23	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	14th ditto.
24	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	995	18th ditto.
25	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	600	18th ditto.
26	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	205	17th ditto.
27	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	16th ditto.
28	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	2,350	18th ditto.
29	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	19th ditto.
30	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	800	11th ditto.
31	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	400	
32	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta ...	1,000	21st ditto.
33	"Srimanta Saudagār"	Ditto ...	.....
34	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto ...	3,000	18th ditto.
35	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto ...	700	17th ditto.
Daily.				
36	"Dainik and Samachār Chandrikā"	Calcutta ...	7,000	20th to 24th November 1887.
37	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	200	
38	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	
39	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
40	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	21st November 1887.
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
41	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna ...	.....
Weekly.				
42	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta ...	.....	22nd ditto.
43	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
44	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	17th ditto.
45	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	500	14th ditto.
46	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	4,500	
47	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
Weekly.				
48	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta ...	250	18th ditto.
URDU.				
Weekly.				
49	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah ...	.....	5th, 12th and 19th November 1887.
50	"Anis"	Patna ...	.....
51	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	
52	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	150	21st November 1887.
53	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....
Bi-weekly.				
54	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	
Daily.				
55	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	212	16th to 24th November 1887.
ORIYA.				
Monthly.				
56	"Taraka and Subhāvartā"	Cuttack ...	.....
57	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....
Weekly.				
58	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	200	29th October 1887.
59	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore ...	205	27th ditto.
60	"Sanskarak"	Cuttack ...	200	27th October & 3rd November 1887.
61	"Navasamvād"	Ditto	
62	"Oriya"	Balasore	26th October & 3rd November 1887.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Sahachar*, of the 16th November, says that the surrender of Ayub Khan to the British Government shows that Russia has no desire to quarrel with England. If Russia had been so disposed, she could have easily sheltered Ayub and thereby strengthened her own position. It also follows from this that Russia is not likely to help Dhuleep Singh in any designs which he may entertain against England.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 16th, 1887.

But the surrender of Ayub will by no means put an end to the present troubles in Afghanistan, for the people of that country will never acknowledge Abdur Rahman as their Amir; and so long as the Afghans are dissatisfied with their Amir, so long will it be easy for Russia to interfere in the affairs of this country. The Afghans are mortal enemies of Englishmen; and the best course that can be adopted to conciliate them and to win their friendship will be to put Ayub on the throne of Afghanistan. In letting slip the opportunity of putting an end to the troubles in Afghanistan, Englishmen are paving the way for the advancement of Russia towards this country.

2. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 17th November, does not agree with those who think that all the troubles of the Amir of Afghanistan will end with the surrender of Ayub Khan. The Ghilzai rebellion has still to be put down.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Nov. 17th, 1887.

3. The *Samaya*, of the 18th November, says that Government should treat Ayub Khan with magnanimity in consideration of his voluntary surrender. If it fails in its sacred duty by Ayub, the Afghans will ever afterwards look upon it with suspicion and distrust.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

4. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 23rd November, suspects that the statement of some Englishmen that the tract of country between the Khusk and Murghab rivers given to Russia at the late boundary settlement is a barren waste is not correct. It is not at all likely that the country between two flowing streams is a barren desert.

*DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA*,
Nov. 23rd, 1887.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

5. The *Sansodhini*, of the 11th November, is shocked to hear that some Mahomedans have taken an image of the goddess Kali out of a house at Nyapara in Chittagong, and cut it up in two at the sacrificial post. One of the Mussulmans has been *challaned* by the police. If the report be correct, anarchy must be said to be prevailing in Chittagong. There should be a careful enquiry into this serious matter.

SANSODHINI,
Nov. 11th, 1887.

6. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th November, gives the following case with the view of showing why police service is disliked by respectable people in this country :—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

One Arunákaran Bhattacharyya, head-constable of the Burdwan Police, asked for three days' leave of the Police Superintendent for performing the funeral ceremonies of his brother who had died at Burdwan, and without waiting for the result of his application he went away. When the Superintendent heard this, he punished Arunákaran by degrading him to the rank of a constable, and ordered him to go to the local Reserve Police. Arunákara did as he was ordered. But his troubles did not end here. He was ordered to put on a blanket coat of the kind which constables

wear in winter, and to carry two guns about him. Now the man had no blanket coat. He had purchased the dress of the head-constable only a few days back. Nor had he money to purchase a blanket coat. And as he was in a weak state of health he could not carry two guns. So for disregarding the order of the Superintendent he was brought before the Assistant Magistrate, who sentenced him to three month's imprisonment. How can the sons of gentlemen enter the Police Service when they see respectable people in that service subjected to such treatment as this?

SAMAYA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

7. The *Samaya*, of the 18th November, complains of the budmashes residing in Mirzapore Street, Calcutta, and says that, notwithstanding repeated complaints against them from this paper, the Deputy

Commissioner of Calcutta has as yet seen no necessity for proceeding against them. A case of theft has recently occurred in that street, which the Commissioner of Police ought to enquire into in person. He should also enquire *personally* into the charges that have been preferred against the budmashes of that street in general.

SAMAYA.

8. The same paper thus examines the police Report for 1886 and the Lieutenant-Governor's minute on it—

- (1) It appears from the report that peace was kept better in the four provinces ruled by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal than in England. Does not this fact speak in favour of the people of this country?
- (2) The figures shewing the percentage of educated men employed in the Police service last year are not reliable; for even in Calcutta all the Police officers, excepting Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, are illiterate men. The percentage of educated men in the Police must therefore be much smaller in the mofussil.
- (3) The Inspector-General's statement that illiterate men do better than educated men as night watch and in connection with *hajut* is supported by no reasons or arguments, and cannot therefore be accepted as correct. His bare assertion has no weight. It is the firm conviction of the writer that it is the illiterate men who first and most easily succumb to temptation.
- (4) From the paucity of prosecutions against the Police, His Honour infers that prosecutions against it are often of an imaginary character, or are based on exaggerated representations of facts. But this does not appear to be the correct view of the matter. People do not like to take any action against the Police for fear of bringing down its vengeance on their own heads. Even rich men cannot often cope with the Police. As the Police is also very clever in getting up false witnesses, it generally comes out victorious in its struggle with the people. His Honour could never have passed the opinion he has actually recorded if he had known the relation which subsists at present between the people and the Police. Government should always keep a sharp eye upon the Police, and put an end to the oppression and mischief which is done by it.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

9. The *Bangabasi*, of the 19th November, objects to the present Police arrangements for the country. At present only 170,000 chowkidars are entrusted with the preservation of the peace in a province consisting of 250,000

The Bengal Police.

villages. The average annual income of a chowkidar is Rs. 30, so no chowkidar gets more than Rs. 3 or Rs. 3-8 a month. This would be nothing for him, and what enables the chowkidar to live on is that he lives in the village and the villagers pay all his expenses. But numerous attempts have been made by Government to make these chowkidars in a greater measure subordinate to the Police and independent of the villagers. The attempt has been partially successful. Many Government officers have blamed the Government for not making these chowkidars independent of the villagers. But those who would make the chowkidars independent of the villagers do not for a moment think, who will give these chowkidars food and clothing when by reason of their ceasing to obey the villagers, the villagers will cease to do so. The question now is, how the efficiency of the Police can be increased without increasing expenditure. This can be done by increasing the number of chowkidars. The *Englishman* newspaper, too, has advised Government to reduce the number of constables and head-constables who are entrusted with the preservation of the peace in towns and in police stations and outposts, and with the money thus saved to employ a larger number of chowkidars. It has also pointed out that chowkidars are largely employed by the thanadars and faridars in doing their private work, and this seriously interferes with their work of keeping watch in the villages. Those who know all this will clearly see that they are mistaken who would make chowkidars subordinate to the Police.

BANGABASI
Nov. 19th, 1887.

10. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the prevalence of theft at Utterpara and Janai. Within the last three months no fewer than 20 or 22 thefts were committed at Utterpara. A theft was committed even in the house of the local zemindar Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee. Some time ago a theft was committed in a shop, and nearly 10 or 12 maunds of *ghee* were abstracted. The shop in question is situated on the Grand Trunk Road, close by the police-station, and the theft was committed on the night of the full moon. But the police has not succeeded in detecting a single thief. Numerous cases of theft are reported from Janai.

11. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 23rd November, says that formerly police officers used to go on rounds in the villages. This had the effect of keeping the chowkidars on the alert, and the villages were therefore well watched at night. But the practice is now discontinued, and the chowkidars have consequently become lax in the performance of their duty of keeping watch in the villages at night. Theft and dacoity have therefore increased in the villages within the Dhaniakhali thana of the Hughli district.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Nov. 23rd, 1887.

12. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 24th November, says that last Monday the Coroner of Calcutta, accompanied by a jury, held an inquest on the dead body of a Brahmin girl, who is said to have committed suicide by hanging herself with a piece of cloth. It should be noted in this connection that, although an inquest has been made, nothing has been mentioned about it in the newspapers, and that no reporters were allowed to go to the place where the inquest was held.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Nov. 24th, 1887.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

13. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 8th November, (a newspaper) says that the Deputy Magistrate, Bahoo Prabhat Nath Mukerjee, who has been recently transferred from Chittagong to Noakholly, is a very unpopular officer. He obtained quite a notoriety in Chittagong by his oppressive

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 8th, 1887.

Baboo Prabhat Nath Mukerjee,
Deputy Magistrate.

income-tax assessments and by his highhanded proceedings, in consequence of which the Magistrate of Chittagong, Mr. Harding, had to describe him as an officer who has disgraced the office of a Judge. Mr. Baruah, the Magistrate of Noakholly, has passed the following remarks on a petition presented to him against Prabhat Baboo :—" I have no option in the matter, this district being worse than a non-regulation province, where Judicial officers appear to have no independent opinion of their own." Prabhat Baboo has openly made such a declaration as this :—" I care more for my appointment than for justice."

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

14. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th November, says that it is improper to appoint District Judges from among the ranks of Assistant and Joint-Magistrates. These young officers, though they have some knowledge of the criminal law, are absolutely ignorant of the other branches of law which a District Judge is required to know. They are also ignorant of the manners and customs of the country ; and yet they are placed over the heads of experienced Munsifs and Subordinate Judges ! Government should specially look to this matter.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

15. The *Pratikar*, of the 18th November, says that the condition of the coolies of Assam is not a whit better than that of the African slaves. The coolies are treated like beasts of burden in the tea gardens of Assam. The reports of coolie oppression have spread far and wide, and the question of coolie oppression has been agitated ; but the Government has done nothing to remove their grievances. On the other hand, the just and benevolent Government is trying its best to maintain the power, the influence, and the prestige of the tea-planters, and to render them every assistance in its power in successfully carrying on their trade. No justice has been done in any case of brutality committed by these tyrannical tea-planters, and they have therefore felt encouraged in the commission of cruelties and oppressions. And that is why the case of the planter Mr. Runburn is now heard of. The following case may be cited as an instance of this :—

On the night of the 17th October last, Mr. Runburn, Manager of the Mangaldi Tea Garden in Assam, forcibly caught one coolie woman named Akali for the purpose of committing rape upon her. Mr. Runburn has himself admitted having caught the woman, but he said he did this with no improper motive. A foreigner forcibly catching a young woman at night and with no evil intention, this is a nice explanation indeed ! And the strangest thing of all is that the judicial officer who tried this case accepted this strange explanation of the planter and ordered the prosecution of the poor coolie woman on the charge of having instituted a false case.

ARYAVARTA,
Nov. 22nd, 1887.

16. The *Aryavarta*, of the 22nd November, refers to a case in which a Judge of the Calcutta High Court objected to a native's sitting on a chair within the court-room, and to another case of a Munshi of a court being committed for contempt of Court, simply because he had coughed in the court-room, and says that, if men who have served for some time as Judges in England are appointed as Judges in India, they will be found to be better behaved than Indian Judges are now generally found to be.

(d)—Education.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 8th, 1887.

17. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 8th November, says that two centres should be fixed for the primary examination in the Roujan thana. For one small room will not accommodate 400 or 500 candidates.

The primary scholarship examination in Chittagong.

Roujan and Fatayabad should be the two centres. The Deputy Inspector of Schools is requested to attend to the matter.

18. The same paper says that the system of paying the salaries of the inspecting pundits at the end of each quarter is a source of great hardship to them. There can be no harm in following this system only in paying their allowances. The authorities are requested to consider the matter.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 8th, 1887.

19. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 15th November, complains that no changes are made in the list of text-books for the Normal Schools. The text-books for other classes of schools are changed every year, but the same books have been in use in the Normal Schools for years together. The Director of Public Instruction does not seem to take a lively interest in the Normal Schools. The same books which are taught in the middle vernacular schools are also taught in the Normal Schools, which means for the students of Normal Schools the study of the same books for four or five years, a very distasteful thing to do, no doubt.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

20. The same paper objects to the appointment of Maulavi Serajul Huq to enquire into the causes of the recent disturbance in the Chittagong Madrassa. The Principal of the Madrassa made certain previous enquiries of the same kind abortive by giving sumptuous dinners to the Mussulman gentlemen who were appointed to conduct them; and it is quite likely that his usual arts, for defeating enquiries, will also prevail against Maulavi Serajul Huq. It is stated Maulavi Zulfikar Ali was allowed to be present at the examination of the teachers of the Madrassa. If so, many of the teachers must have shrunk from telling the truth. It would have been better if an European or a Hindu officer had been appointed to hold this enquiry.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,

21. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th November, says that it is believed by most of the members of the Senate of the Calcutta University that Bengali is a very easy language, and does not therefore require assiduous study; but there are Bengali authors, such as Mukundaram and Bharat Chandra, in whose works are found numerous passages which the learned members of the Senate will find it very hard to understand.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 16th, 1887.

Another objection against Bengali being made a second language at the F. A. Examination is that there are no good Bengali books. To this it is replied that such books as the Bengali translation of the *Mahabharat* by Kali Prasanna Singh, Tara Sankar's *Kadambari*, Baboo Bhudeb Mukerjee's *Pushpanjali*, the translations from Bacon by Ram Kamal, &c., would form excellent text-books not only for the F. A. but also for the B. A. Examination.

Bengali literature is making rapid progress, and books embodying the most recent thoughts on social, scientific, and moral subjects have begun to be written in Bengali. It is therefore but just that Bengali should have a high place assigned to it in the curriculum of the University, and that all subjects—science, history, mathematics—should be taught through the medium of that language.

It is not desirable that the study of Sanskrit should be neglected. Let Sanskrit be studied by all means, but let Bengali also have a place, be it but a minor one, assigned to it at the F. A. Examination. If Bengali is allowed to be taken up at that examination, all inconvenience arising out of the greater difficulty of reading and passing examinations in Sanskrit will be removed by making the Bengali selections as difficult as possible.

ULASH SAMACHAR &
KURADAKA
Nov. 18th, 1887.

22. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kushdaha*, of the 18th November, says that the guardian of a school-boy in Madras has written to a local newspaper blaming the authorities of that school for allowing boys to go about raising subscriptions in aid of political movements like the National Congress, and remarks that it is not good for school-boys to take part in political matters, as that will necessarily interfere with their studies.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

23. The *Samaya*, of the 18th November, says that by deciding to hold examinations twice every day the Calcutta University has revived its old practice. If so, why is not the old practice of closing the schools and colleges in winter also revived? The closing of the schools for two months during the hot season is found to do much harm to boys reading in the lower classes of schools. The winter vacation will cause no such harm or inconvenience. It is to be hoped that Mr. P. K. Ray, who understands better than any European what things are likely to cause inconvenience to Bengali students, will take the matter into his consideration.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

24. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, says that, as Assam is a backward province, there ought to be better provision for education in that province than elsewhere. At present only 14 scholarships are given to eight schools in the valley of the Brahmaputra. Now this gives less than two scholarships to each school. The number of scholarships should therefore be increased. At least three scholarships should be awarded to each school. Provision should also be made with a view of enabling the students of Assam to join the Calcutta Medical College after passing the Entrance examination.

SANJIVANI.

25. A correspondent of the same paper brings the following charges against the head-master of the school at Naraingunge :—

The head-master of the Narain-
gunge school.

1. The head-master, Baboo Sarat Kumar Basu, comes to school at 12 noon, and after a short stay retires into the female apartments of his house, whence he does not come out in less than one hour-and-a-half. On the whole, he works at the school not more than three hours a day.
2. He passes new rules every other day to the great inconvenience of the boys whom he punishes severely for every departure therefrom.
3. On one occasion a student of the Entrance class protested to him that his prolonged stay in the zenana seriously interfered with his work of instruction, and that he therefore feared that he would not be able to do well at the examination. Upon this the head-master told the boy that he must not expect to receive more instruction in the school, and that he might, if he chose, appear at the examination as a private student.

The school in question being an aided one, the Inspector of Schools should institute an enquiry into these charges.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

26. The *Bangabasi*, of the 19th November, says that numerous complaints have been made against the head-master of the Boinchee B. L. Institution. Some respectable residents of the place complained to the widow of the founder of this charitable institution that

The B. L. Institution at Boinchee in
Hooghly.

the moral character of the head-master was bad, and she, on her part, has written to the District Magistrate, requesting him to make a careful enquiry into the charges brought against the head-master, and if he finds him guilty to remove him from the institution. For these acts the boys of the school, at the instigation of the head-master, left the school compound on the 23rd Assin last in a procession, beating drums all the way, and bearing the effigy of one of the gentlemen who had complained against their head-master and of his wife. The boys are also raising subscriptions for defraying the expenses of a law-suit on behalf of the head-master. By conducting themselves in this way the boys have been guilty of a serious offence, for which they deserve to be severely dealt with. Childish freaks may be pardoned, but the manner in which the boys are conducting themselves is simply shocking and disgraceful. Now-a-days school-boys meddle in social and political matters, and thus their education is prejudiced. It is not known who has shown the boys this high road to ruin, but it is a pity that the contagion has spread from the town to the mofussil.

27. The *Navavibhakar Sadhāranī*, of the 21st November, referring to the introduction of Mahratti as a second language in the higher examinations of the Bombay University, asks whether Bengali, which is not less developed than Mahratti, and which, in a less developed state than what it has now attained to, formed one of the second languages at the First Arts and B. A. Examinations of the Calcutta University, will not be introduced again as a second language at those examinations.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

(e).—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

28. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 8th November, complains of the wretched condition of the hackney carriages within the limits of the Chittagong Municipality. The horses drawing those carriages are lean and underfed, and are made to work all day long. Mr. Percival, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality, is requested to put down such cruelties as are now inflicted on the animals. Some time ago a rule was passed prohibiting prostitutes from driving through public streets in hackney carriages, but that rule too is not enforced.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Nov. 8th, 1887.

29. A correspondent of the *Chāru Vartā*, of the 14th November, says that the Sherpore Municipality has a good income, but the manner in which it is spent does not commend itself to the public. A large sum of money has been spent in repairing and decorating the municipal office, but roads have been neglected. The proposal for lighting the streets has not been carried out. There are many ponds within the limits of the Sherpore Municipality containing very foul and unwholesome water. The use of this impure water gives rise to diseases. As the time for municipal re-election is drawing near, it is hoped that the rate-payers will take care to elect only very deserving and conscientious men as Commissioners.

CHARU VARTĀ,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

30. The *Paridarshak*, of the 14th November, complains of the prevalence of cholera in different parts of Sylhet. The residents of villages on both sides of the river, as well as the residents of the town, are dying of that disease in large numbers. The people are of opinion that the use of the impure water of the river for drinking purposes is the cause of this outbreak. The municipal authorities are therefore requested to see that the water of the river is not used for drinking purposes.

PARIDARSHAK,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

**GARIB AND
MAHAVIDYA,**
Nov. 16th, 1887.

31. The *Garib and Mahavidya*, of the 16th November, says that the election of Commissioners for the Dacca Municipality will take place on the 10th December.

The coming municipal election at Dacca.

The rate-payers are requested to vote for conscientious and deserving candidates. It is only unselfish men who have the good of the municipality at heart, and who are sufficiently zealous, active, energetic and public-spirited that deserve to be returned as Commissioners. No candidates for election should therefore be allowed to secure votes by laying the rate-payers under obligations of a private nature.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 16th, 1887.

32. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th November, says that at the coming municipal election the rate-payers should take care to select men possessed of good character and practical knowledge. Purely literary men,

The ensuing municipal elections.

such as school-masters, have been known to fail as Commissioners. So let not school-masters again meddle in politics and let no rate-payers vote for them. Again, let not those men whose names have been struck off the list of Municipal Commissioners on account of their non-attendance at municipal meetings be again elected. In re-electing any old Commissioners, care should be taken to examine the work done by them during the last three years. In short, let educated men be selected everywhere; but in electing educated men, care should be taken to put out mere talkers, who are worse than even old pensioners. Let those men who are imbued with party spirit be also excluded; for the men who import party feeling into public business are real enemies of this country.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

33. The *Pratikar*, of the 18th November, says that by writing about the Commissioners of the Berhampore Municipality in the manner it did

The Berhampore Municipality.

in its previous issue (see Report on Native Papers for week ending 19th November, paragraph 30), it did not mean to say that the Commissioners have done nothing good, or that a European Chairman would have done better than the non-official Native Chairman has done. Everybody knows that the Commissioners could not effect many beneficial reforms for want of funds. But it cannot be also denied that the Commissioners were negligent in some degree in the performance of their duties. They could, for instance, have compelled many zemindars who own foul ponds to fill them up but they did not do so. The following proposals are made for the better management of the municipality in future:—

- (1). A rate-payer's association should be formed with the object of criticising the work of the Commissioners and co-operating with them in their good undertakings.
- (2). The Commissioners should inform the public of the dates of all their general meetings and of the subjects to be brought before such meetings in order to enable the public to be present at those meetings.
- (3). The resolutions passed at the meetings of the Commissioners should be published for general information.
- (4). The Commissioners should publish a quarterly report on the sanitary improvements effected within the municipality.
- (5). The Commissioners should convene public meetings of the rate-payers for ascertaining their views regarding important measures proposed to be taken by them.
- (6). At least ten days before the passing of the budget a Bengali translation of it should be placed in a conspicuous place in each ward. The opinions passed by the rate-payers in regard to the budget should be fully discussed at the

meetings of the Commissioners, and should be recorded in their resolution book.

- (7). The Commissioners should inform the rate-payers of all serious charges brought against the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, or any other high officer of the municipality.

34. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, says that the public of Midnapore having been dissatisfied with the work done by their

The Midnapore Municipality.

Municipal Commissioners during the last three years, have lost their faith in the elective system altogether; but even admitting that the Commissioners did not do their best for the improvement of the municipality, it must be borne in mind that the time during which they held their Commissionerships was also very brief. Let the rate-payers therefore give their Commissioners another chance and go about the new election affair in right earnest. They should remember the proverb—"One swallow does not make a summer."

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

35. A correspondent of the *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 21st November, objects to the proposal to levy a night-soil tax at Bhatpara within the Naihati Municipality. Only 13 per cent. of the rate-

The proposed night-soil tax at Bhatpara.

payers of Bhatpara have privies, the remaining 87 per cent. easing themselves at their will on adjacent waste lands. Actuated by selfish motives, the small number of persons who have privies of their own are trying to have a night-soil rate, which will enable them to get their privies cleaned with the money of the majority of rate-payers who have no privies. It is also a mistake to suppose that the epidemics which rage from time to time at Bhatpara are due to the unclean state of the privies in that place. The privies in Bhatpara are not very unclean. The health of Bhatpara is not worse than that of the adjacent villages. As for periodical outbreaks of cholera and malaria, no place—not even Calcutta—is free from them. Government is requested not to sanction the imposition of the proposed night-soil tax, which will be a source of inconvenience to the majority of the rate-payers of Bhatpara.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

36. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 23rd November, asks the rate-payers of the Dacca Municipality to be careful in their election of Commissioners at the ensuing municipal election. The shortcomings of

The ensuing municipal election at Dacca.

the existing Municipal Commissioners have been the cause of the bad name of the municipality. Most of the Commissioners have done their duty perfunctorily.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Nov. 23rd, 1887.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

37. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th November, asks the Lieutenant-Governor to issue an order asking the Collectors to show the same consideration in road cess sales as they have been recently

Sales of estates for arrears of road cess.

asked by him to do in the matter of revenue sales. These road cess sales have proved the ruin of many holders of aymas and rent-free lands. It often happens that lakhiraj lands and aymas, having many co-sharers, are sold in consequence of the default of one of them.

Owing to the negligence of peons road cess sale notices are never served in time. Nor do the Deputy Collectors take the trouble to ascertain whether notices are duly served or not. It is true that in some cases such sales are set aside if the parties oppose them within a month from their date. But as the purchasers often take care to take possession *secretly*, and months often elapse before the proprietors know or hear anything about

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

the sale, the sales in most cases remain unopposed. It is therefore prayed that Sir Steuart Bayley, who has the good of his people at heart, will endeavour to prevent the mischief which is caused in this way by these sales.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

38. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, says that two new Acts have been recently passed in Assam, one the Land Regulation Act, the other the Forest Act.

The land and forest laws of Assam.

By the former, all distinction between low and high lands has been done away with, both of them being assessed to the land tax. Now, as low lands are very difficult to cultivate, the crops there being liable to be destroyed by a little rainfall, they cannot, in propriety, be placed in the same class with high lands. As the same tax cannot be paid for high lands and low lands, Assamese cultivators are abandoning low lands in large numbers.

Under the second Act, the people of Assam have been prohibited from taking more than a limited quantity of wood from their forests. Now, the people of Assam have all along enjoyed the right of collecting firewood from their forests, and it is in this way that a great part of Assam has been cleared of jungle and thereby rendered fit for cultivation. The new law will therefore affect the interests of agriculture in that Province. As the winter is also severe in Assam, the people there require large quantities of wood in order to make fires for the purpose of protecting themselves and their cattle against cold. This prohibition in question will therefore subject them to great suffering. It is hoped that the new Chief Commissioner of Assam will remove all these causes of complaint.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

39. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 19th November, draws attention to the fact that 72 bighas of *lakhiroj* land in the Doro pergunnah of the Midnapore district, yielding an annual income of Rs. 400, have been sold by auction for arrears of road cess for the incredibly small sum of Rs. 16. The owners of the land in question are residents of Shamnagar in Halisahar pergunnah, and are at present staying at Midnapore. They have offered the auction purchaser Rs. 256 or 16 times the price paid by him, but the purchaser demands a higher price. The road cess is not an imperial impost; it is levied for the purpose of making and improving roads. It is not therefore right to sell people's houses for arrears of road cess. People can afford to walk on bad roads, but they cannot do without houses. The sales for arrears of road cess are principally owing to the fact of their not being properly proclaimed. It is therefore advisable, in the first instance, to sell only moveable property for recovering arrears of road cess. Sir Steuart Bayley, the just and kind-hearted ruler of Bengal, is requested to modify the existing law relating to the sale of property for arrears of road cess.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

CHARUVARTA,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

40. A correspondent of the *Charu Varta*, of the 14th November, says that the road cess road from Pearpore to Sherpore in Mymensingh is out of repair. The road is much used by travellers and for traffic. There are huge depressions in certain parts of this important road which has therefore become a source of great inconvenience to those who use it. The Chairman of the Road Cess Committee is earnestly requested to inspect the road and to make arrangements for its thorough repair.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

41. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, has taken the following case from the *Indian Mirror* newspaper:—
Some Bengali ladies were seated in a ladies'

A railway case.

compartment belonging to a train which was coming to Calcutta from Goalundo. When the train reached Barrackpore, the station-master, who is either an Englishman or a Eurasian, put one of his own countrymen into the ladies' compartment. Occurrences like this are taking place daily, and more than one protest has been sent to Government, which probably thinks it beneath its dignity to take any action in such matters. It is therefore clear these acts of oppression will not cease unless the people of the country take the law into their own hands. The man who entered the ladies' compartment would have got a good lesson if somebody about him had given him a hard blow with his clenched fist on his nose.

42. A correspondent of the same paper is glad to find that the protests repeatedly made in this paper against canal oppression in Midnapore have at last attracted the attention of the Collector of Midnapore, who intends holding an enquiry into the real condition of the people.

43. The *Navavibhakar Sádharani*, of the 21st November, relates the following story about the violation of the Tramway Company's rules by a native conductor and a Eurasian Inspector in its employ:—On the 13th November last, when the tramcar No. 12, bound for Clive Street, which started from Sealdah at 3-45 P.M., came near the Bowbazar stables, a *sahab* in a tipsy state got into it apparently with a view of escaping from a pertinacious hackney-carriage driver whose carriage he seems to have hired some days ago, and who was now pressing him for his fare. The driver followed the *sahab* to the car and continued clamouring for his fare. Finding the *sahab* unable to remain on his legs, the conductor (whose number is 206) told him to sit on a bench. He did not do so. Just then a Eurasian Inspector came and whispered something in his ear, and he at once took a ticket for Clive Street. The number of this Inspector is 12, and his name was stated to be Scott. When the car came to the Bowbazar crossing, the *sahab* finding the hackney man away got down. But the hackneyman immediately came up to him and again pressed him for the payment of his fare. The *sahab* thereupon again got into the car. The Eurasian Inspector was still in the car. The Tramway Company is asked whether the taking of a drunkard, who is a nuisance to the passengers, into a car, is not prohibited by rule, and whether a man who has got down from a car after taking a through journey ticket is not required to take another ticket before he can be allowed to travel again in the car from which he has alighted.

(h)—General.

44. The *Dhumketu*, of the 11th November, says that if the proposal to increase the rate of the income-tax be actually carried into effect, the people will be subjected to very great inconvenience and hardship.

45. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 14th November, says that Government should enrol natives as volunteers just as it has enrolled Europeans. No injury to the British dominion in India need be apprehended from such a measure, because not more than 50,000 natives will probably care to become volunteers and because they will be commanded by European officers. When Government can maintain native troops, it can also maintain native volunteer forces.

46. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 14th November, disapproves of the present Government policy of constructing railways and fortresses on the North-Western frontier. This policy might have been

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI.
Nov. 21st, 1887.

DHUMKETU,
Nov. 11th, 1887.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

successful if Russia had sworn, Bible in hand, that she would never advance towards India, or if the people of India had been in a position to go on spending money for ever upon these frontier defences. Russia evidently means to be guided by the will of Peter the Great, and she will not therefore desist from her attempt to come near India. On the other hand, the people of India are too poor to be able to spend much money in order to keep Russia at bay. The general Indian population have been impoverished by the income-tax and by the road and public works cesses. And if Government accepts the offers of pecuniary help now being rendered to it by the Native Princes, the native princes will also be soon impoverished. And then, how will the present frontier policy be maintained or carried out? It is therefore clear that that policy is sooner or later destined to collapse.

The best policy for the Government to adopt in this connection is, therefore, to trust its own subjects, to infuse a martial spirit into them, and to seize their hearts by giving them high offices.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

47. A correspondent of the same paper says that the boundary line between the Sherpore pergunnah and the Garo Hills is clearly indicated by means of masonry pillars. The *mouzadar* of the Garo Hills has now questioned the proprietary right of the zemindars of Sherpore pergunnah in certain lands, which have been owned by them for a long time, and the zemindars are suffering heavy loss on account of these disputes. The Deputy Commissioner of the Garo Hills is requested to look into the matter.

48. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 16th November, says that 200 inhabitants of the Sagore district, in the Central Provinces assembled for the purpose of memorialising against the highhanded proceedings of the Deputy Commissioner of that district. For this act they have all been arrested by the order of the Chief Commissioner, and have been sent up for trial. One cannot easily induce oneself to believe that any one in India can, under the British rule, be subjected to oppression of this kind only for appealing against an officer with whom he is dissatisfied. But the statement has been made in the *Jubbulpore Central Indian news*, and it is probable that there is some truth in it. The authorities are therefore requested to enquire into its truth.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Nov. 16th, 1887.

49. The *Rungpore Dik Prakásh*, of the 17th November, makes the following observations in connection with the assessment and levying of the income-tax:—

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Nov. 17th, 1887.

The income-tax.

- (1). The income-tax was recovered by the sale of movable and immovable property from 186 persons in Rungpore and from 106 persons in Dinagepore. That this was allowed to be done in spite of the superstitious belief prevailing in that part of the country that the public sale of household property or goods for the recovery of any Government demand bodes domestic evil shows clearly that the income-tax assessments were in many instances unjust and oppressive.
- (2). From the fact that many villages were not visited by the assessors, Government has inferred that many people escaped assessment. But this is an erroneous view of the matter. For, where the assessors did not go, village *punchayets* and *chowkidars* did the work of assessment for them by supplying them with the necessary information.
- (3). The fact that objections against the assessment were not very numerous does not warrant the conclusion arrived at by the

Government that the assessment was on the whole fair and moderate. It is now well known that many people prefer no objections simply because they gain nothing by doing so, and are often subjected to some loss in the bargain.

- (4). It is clear that in those cases in which the tax had to be recovered by means of attachment and sale of property, the assessments were not properly made. It is hoped that no tax will be levied in those cases next year, without making a careful enquiry into the actual condition of the persons assessed.

50. The *Surabhi and Patākā*, of the 19th November, condemns the new rule passed by the Bengal Board of Revenue, under which not only the Collector of Calcutta, but all the men in his office, will be allowed to see the income-tax returns of the people of Calcutta.

Income-tax returns in Calcutta.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

51. The same paper says that from its very commencement British rule has tended to impoverish this country. The number of Indians thrown out of employment is continually increasing. The ancient

Impoverishment of India under English rule.

arts and manufactures of the country have vanished one after another in competition with English goods; and every time an art or manufacture has vanished, the whole class of people who lived by carrying it on have been thrown into a state of utter destitution. It is thus that the large weaver class has been ruined. Discontinuance of the practice of manufacturing salt in this country has also thrown millions of poor Indians out of employment. The same fate is about to overtake smiths, braziers and other classes of the people. It is true that a great many people have found occupation on railways. But the number of men who have found new employment is far less than the number of those who have been thrown out of employment by the ruin of the ancient arts and manufactures. And as the number of the unemployed is thus daily increasing, Government should early address itself to the question of making provision for them, and not dismiss their applications for service under it with such remarks as these:—"You foolish men, give up your idea of obtaining service under Government, and take to some trade or manufacture and learn to rely upon your own selves." How different are such replies from the reply which has been given by the Government in England to the unemployed in that country! There, the Government instead of unceremoniously rejecting the demands of the unemployed, has promised to do the best in its power for them.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

52. The same paper says that Government is now holding art exhibitions year after year. These exhibitions cost it large sums of money. The London Exhibition cost it 10,000£. over and above the goods valued at 6,850£. collected for the projected Bombay Exhibition. The charge for packing and transporting Indian goods to England and bringing them back to this country amounted to about Rs. 73,000. The amount realised by the sale of the goods fell far short of this immense expenditure. For only a few such articles as strike the fancy of foreigners sell at a high price and all the rest of the articles at very small prices. The persons, generally poor merchants and artisans, who send their goods to these exhibitions, do not also receive their dues in time. Those for instance who sent their goods to the London Exhibition of 1886 have not yet received the moneys due to them. Again, it is only a few men who are fortunate enough to make some money by competition, and these

Government and the Indian Art exhibitions.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

exhibitions are on the whole unfavourable to Indian arts and manufactures. Government should therefore desist from holding these exhibitions, which cost the poor people of India so much money, especially at a time when its exchequer is admittedly not in a prosperous condition.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

53. Referring to Sir Lepel Griffin, the *Pratikar*, of the 18th November, exclaims as follows :—" O Empress of India ! should there be such injustice in your empire as is involved in a highly respectable and innocent native lady being compelled for no assignable reason to live apart from her husband ? When one calls to mind that inhuman act of Sir Lepel Griffin's, when one calls to mind that a high official of the English Government has completely deprived the young Begum of Bhopal of the happiness of living with her husband, one cannot help feeling a desire to leave the Empire in which such injustice prevails. We are anxious to see what punishment is inflicted upon Sir Lepel Griffin."

Sir Lepel Griffin.

URDU GUIDE,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

54. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 18th November, says that if Government really wants to appoint Mussulmans in the public service from considerations of justice, it should appoint them to all posts for which they may be fit without requiring them to hold University diplomas.

Appointment of Mussulmans in the public service.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

55. The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 18th November, says that Government should now do either of two things in reference to Sir Lepel Griffin. It should either punish him, or it should punish native newspapers for giving circulation to false stories regarding him. The case against Sir Lepel Griffin cannot be tried in a public court, because a public trial will be a huge public scandal. It would therefore be best to appoint a Commission to try Sir Lepel.

Sir Lepel Griffin.

PRAJA BANDHU.

56. The same paper strongly protests against the proposed increase of the rate of the income-tax in consequence of the increasing expenditure of the Burmese administration. As the annexation of Burmah was condemned by the whole of the native press, the Government was certainly not justified in making it, and having made it against the wishes of the natives, it is not justified in increasing the burdens of the people in order to meet the expenditure which that ill-considered measure is leading to. The *Englishman* now says that the Government did not know that the annexation would prove so costly. But it should have known that avaricious people can never form a correct estimate of income and expenditure.

Increased rate of the income-tax.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

57. The *Samaya*, of the 18th November, referring to the case of Mr. Finnimore as reported from the *Sanjivani* newspaper (see Report on Native Papers for week ending 19th November, paragraph 9), says if all that is related in that paper be true, the low-minded Mr. Finnimore and the Magistrate of Khulna will be to blame ; and it will behove Government to transfer them elsewhere.

Mr. Finnimore, Executive Engineer, Khulna.

SAMAYA

58. The same paper will approve of the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal to increase the school fees of medical schools if this increase keeps pace with the increase of instruction in those schools. Last year the number of in-door patients in Government charitable dispensaries was less than in previous years. The reason is, first, that medicines given in these dispensaries are of the most abominable character ; and, secondly, that the medicines are administered by incompetent men.

The Government charitable dispensaries.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

59. The same paper, in commenting on the Administration Report of Orissa for 1886, praises the Lieutenant-Governor for the sympathy he has shown with public feeling at Pooree, and says that it will be impossible to remove or mitigate the grief which has, as it were, taken firm possession of the hearts of the people of that place by reason of the refusal of Government to grant their prayers for the release of Devya Singh, and the proceedings taken in connection with the Pooree temple. Speaking generally, in Orissa education has suffered a check, and drunkenness has increased. The excise policy of Government everywhere stands in the way of popular progress. The Lieutenant-Governor has passed by this portion of the report in silence.

The Administration Report of Orissa
for 1886.

60. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, says that Government has assigned two reasons for the falling off of the salt manufacture in India. The first is that licenses for manufacturing salt are now-a-days given to a smaller number of persons than before. The second is that many persons, after receiving the licenses, are compelled to give up the manufacture of salt in consequence of oppression on the part of Government offices. Now, is it not cruel on the part of Government to allow the salt manufacture of India to be thus ruined? Could anything excite greater regret than the fact that, in a country where salt can be prepared by merely exposing sea-water to dry in the sun, the people should be compelled to purchase salt at a great expense and the cattle should die for want of salt?

Extinction of the salt manufacture.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

61. Referring to the case of the coolies (reported in the Weekly Report on Native Papers for week ending 19th November, paragraph 52), the same paper goes on as follows:—"In its reports published year after year, Government tries to make out that the European managers of tea-gardens are all good men and the coolies are a wicked set of people. What does Government mean by thus throwing dust in the eyes of the public? Is it to be believed that the Government which has suppressed thuggee is unable to put down the oppression of coolie sirdars? It seems that Government has really no desire to put down this fearful coolie slavery. It is better, however, that the tea trade should be ruined and Assam should become the abode of wild beasts than that this fearful custom of selling coolies as slaves should be kept up.

The coolie oppression.

SANJIVANI.

The Governor-General promised last year that he would consider the the coolie law, but that year has passed away without anything being done in the matter. His Excellency finds time to conquer Burmah, Afghanistan, Sikkim, and Russia, but he has no time to devote to this coolie question. The fact is that Government is supremely indifferent to the interests of the people, simply because it thinks that the people of this country are a degenerate race, and have almost ceased to live. Is there nobody to awaken Government from its slumber?

62. A correspondent of the same paper says that there is an outstill at Kamarpukar near Jehanabad, in the district of Hooghly, where over 90 per cent. of the village boys drink wine. Here a bottle of wine could be had for an anna.

Outstill at Kamarpukar near Jehanabad in the district of Hooghly.

SANJIVANI.

63. A correspondent of the same paper says that no one cherishes the hope that the obnoxious provisions of the canal law will be repealed. But the Collector of Midnapore may be asked to be kind to the poor ryots of his district, and to mitigate the rigour of the canal law as much as he can. The Collector should also look to the indigo tracts of Midnapore, for between the indigo-planters

Oppression in Midnapore.

SANJIVANI.

Midnapore may be asked to be kind to the poor ryots of his district, and to mitigate the rigour of the canal law as much as he can. The Collector should also look to the indigo tracts of Midnapore, for between the indigo-planters

and canal officers, the people suffer very severely. The writings of the *Medini* newspaper against the oppressive proceedings of indigo-planters and canal officers once roused the Government to action, and those oppressions were for a time checked. But as the *Medini* has ceased to exist, the indigo-planters and canal officers have resumed their old practices.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

64. The same paper approves of the new rules framed by Sir Steuart Bayley for the admission of candidates into the Statutory Civil Service, and specially praises His Honour for his requiring certificates of good character from the intending candidates. Unlike the Government of India, His Honour considers mere education and ability in a man as insufficient guarantees for his fitness as a public servant. It would be well if Government were always to insist upon this point in regard to its servants both when entering service as well as when employed in it. It is hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will not allow the requisition about character to retain the merely formal character which it now bears. It is now generally believed that certificates of age can be had from the doctors on payment of fees. And the belief does not seem to be groundless. But it is Government which, in a manner, favours the growth of such immoral practices. Will the Government of Sir Steuart Bayley allow such things to be done?

SANJIVANI.

65. A correspondent of the same paper asks the Postal authorities to establish a post office at Kamarpukar, a village in the Jehanabad sub-division of the district of Hooghly, and says that so long as that cannot be done, the letter-box, which is now placed at a distance of a mile from the village, should be placed at the village hât, and the post peon asked to visit the village every day. The village is a place of growing importance, and the number of letters which the merchants of the place send every day is not small.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

66. The *Bangabâsi*, of the 19th November, says that the members of the Public Service Commission will soon reassemble at Calcutta. The unusually prolonged sittings of the Commission have given rise to many misgivings in the minds of the people. The people of India have derived no substantial benefits from the Education Commission or the Salaries Commission, about which so much fuss was made, and people expect no better result from the Public Service Commission. It appears that the posts which have been hitherto reserved for natives will be thrown open to Europeans as well. There can be no objection to the appointment of deserving Europeans to certain high posts, but justice and good policy demand that the duties which can be satisfactorily performed by natives should be given only to them. English officials say that natives are unfit for administrative work. But natives have all along done administrative work. At present a very large portion of the administrative work is performed by natives. Europeans enjoy all the credit of performing any difficult work, and the blame for any work badly done is cast upon the natives. There is hardly any work under the Government which cannot be well and ably performed by the natives. There is no objection to the appointment of Europeans on higher salaries to posts, the duties of which cannot be performed by natives. But there is no need of importing men from Europe on higher salaries to perform work which can be satisfactorily performed by natives on smaller salaries.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

67. The *Navavibhakar Sadhârani*, of the 21st November, says that the English followed a very generous policy at the commencement of their rule in this country; but having now seen that such a policy is injurious to their own

The English Government.

interests, they are oppressing natives in various ways. The English have made the natives their equals morally and intellectually, and yet they refuse to appoint the natives to the posts which are now held exclusively by Englishmen. There are some departments into which natives are not at all admitted, and there are other departments in which natives are excluded from the higher offices. In consequence of this, natives are becoming more and more discontented, and many of them are losing their respect for the English Government. In this way the work of administration is becoming more and more difficult, and the gulf between the rulers and the ruled is becoming wider. It cannot be said that the policy of the English Government in this country is unjust and illiberal. That the country is not justly administered is owing to the fact that not a single officer of Government is generous enough to give a free and full effect to its enlightened policy.

68. The *Som Prakash*, of the 21st November, says that if the proposal to increase the rate of the income-tax be carried into effect, Government will be lowered in the estimation of the people.

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

Will the people be never consulted in the matter of increasing their burdens?

69. The same paper says that the circular recently issued by the Government of India directing the Provincial Governments to send the Magistrates of districts, or District Superintendents of Police or some European Magistrate on behalf of the people to the place where disputes between villagers and European soldiers occur will be of no use unless one or two native gentlemen are associated with the European gentlemen in settling disputes of this description.

SOM PRAKASH.

70. The same paper says that Mr. Grant, Magistrate of Balasore, often absents himself from Court. His regular hours of attendance, that is to say, when he chooses to attend, are between 3 and 4 P.M. The Head Assistant of his Court comes to his lodgings daily to get papers signed by him. Mr. Grant signs papers at his pleasure. His absence from Court often causes great inconvenience to prisoners upon whom short sentences of imprisonment have been passed. In such cases Mr. Grant generally allows the terms of the sentences to be over before the appeals against them are heard in his Court. And then, when Mr. Grant is told that the appellant has already served out his short sentence, he simply laughs, and the matter ends. The Lieutenant-Governor has called Mr. Grant indolent, because he did not spend much time in making mofussil tours. But the fact is that Mr. Grant's indolence extends to every part of his duty. With all this, however, Mr. Grant is the most powerful man in Balasore. He cannot brook the slightest opposition. A case is then given in which a Sub-Inspector of Police was prosecuted at his instance for the offence of having given expression to his opinion in a case before him in a somewhat independent spirit. Another secret about Mr. Grant's attendance in Court is that he is very fond of playing on the piano, and has really to be sent away from home by his wife in order to attend Court. He often hides himself in a lower room of his house, and warns his servants against telling Mrs. Grant anything about it lest Mrs. Grant should seek him out, dislodge him from his lurking place and send him to Court.

SOM PRAKASH.

71. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 21st November, says that Government looks after the welfare of only those departments in which Europeans enjoy a monopoly of the best posts. The recent re-organisation of the Telegraph Depart-

DACCA GAZETTE
Nov. 21st, 1887.

The Telegraph Department.

ment proves this. Very favourable rules regarding pensions and personal allowances have been recently passed for that department. But the benefit of those rules will be enjoyed only by Europeans and Eurasians, for all the higher posts are held by them. The doors of the Telegraph Department are practically closed against the natives. The attention of the Public Service Commission should be drawn to this matter.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

72. The same paper is glad to find that the Madras and Bombay Governments are using stationery of local manufacture in their offices as far as practicable. The result of this has been very satisfactory. A large saving has been effected in a very short time, and the millionaires of that part of India have opened workshops for the manufacture of those articles on a large scale. Is such a thing impossible in Bengal.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR,
CHANDRIKA,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

73. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st November, says that a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the oppression which the indigo-planters are alleged to be in the habit of committing in Behar. The indigo-planters of Behar have come forward with their protests against the statements made against them by Mr. Stobie in the *Fortnightly Review*. The *Englishman* and other Anglo-Indian papers are, of course, pleading their case. But their own assertion of innocence and that of their pleaders will never exculpate them in the eyes of the public either here or in England. A Commission, like the Bengal Indigo Commission, and consisting of independent men, should be appointed. The indigo-planters of Behar, if they are really innocent, should themselves ask for a Commission of Enquiry.

URDU GUIDE,
Nov. 24th, 1887.

74. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 24th November, says that two women, one of Hooghly and the other of Gya, have been recently transported to tea-plantations under false pretexts. A pleader of Dibrugur is conducting their cases. Government is requested to enquire into the matter and to put down this practice of transporting people to tea-plantations under false pretexts.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Nov. 17th, 1887.

75. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 17th November, says that it is proposed to appoint a Burmese gentleman to the Legislative Council in India in place of Raja Amir Hossein Khan, whose term of membership will expire in December next. Now, it is not easy to see what good either India or Burmah will derive from the presence in the Viceregal Council of what will undoubtedly be a veritable Burmese puppet.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

DHUMKETU,
Nov. 11th, 1887.

76. The *Dhumketu*, of the 11th November, says that the Government of India has displayed great good sense by deciding not to accept the proffered donations of the Nizam and the Rajah of Kupurthalah.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Nov. 14th, 1887.

77. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 14th November, says that it is wrong on the part of Government not to make an enquiry into the charges brought against Sir Lepel Griffin by the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. It will be well if Government permits Sir Lepel to institute a charge of defamation against that paper; for, in that case, the manner in which native princes are really treated by Government will be revealed.

78. Referring to the offers of money made to the Government of India

Donations of the Nizam and other Native Chiefs of India.

by the Nizam and after him by other native chiefs, the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

November, says that by helping the Government with money the native chiefs will confer a real benefit on the people of India. For, with an exchequer replenished in this way, the Government may not be compelled, as at present, to suck the life blood of its own people for money.

79. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, protests against sending an army into Sikkim for the purpose of defend-

Interference in the affairs of Sikkim.

ing the prestige of the British Government.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

Fie on that prestige which is tarnished by every breath! Everywhere in India preparations for war are being made for the purpose of upholding British prestige. Lord Dufferin is sowing the seeds of unrest broadcast. The exchequer is empty, the expenditure of the Empire has exceeded its income by $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees. Still His Excellency is eager to plunge into war under the pretence of defending the prestige of England in India. It is earnestly hoped that no more money will be wasted by entering into a war with Sikkim.

80. The same paper says that it costs the Native Princes, who are

Receptions given to the Governor-General by the Native Princes of India.

visited by the Governor-General, a great deal of money to give him a reception suited to his position. And if they have to go on spend-

SANJIVANI.

ing money in this way, their pecuniary resources will be severely taxed and they will gradually grow discontented. The Government should therefore promulgate a rule forbidding these costly receptions.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

81. The *Dhumketu*, of the 11th November, thus comments on the *Pioneer's* article headed "The English in India":—

"The English in India."

DHUMKETU,
Nov. 11th, 1887.

Mere words will fail to check Anglo-Indian oppression. The Anglo-Indians should bear in mind that popular forbearance has a limit. When that limit will be passed, there will be a rebellion which lakhs of English bayonets will fail to quell. Indians are a very simple and straightforward people. They are easily satisfied, and if Englishmen cannot satisfy such a people as these Indians are, their fall is certainly very near. The Anglo-Indians who lord it over the natives have no idea of what mischief can be done by a popular rebellion. It is time, therefore, that these men should mend their manners and follow the advice of the noble writer in the *Pioneer*. The *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* should also take care not to excite ill-feelings in the minds of their countrymen against the natives of India.

82. The same paper hopes that all the native chiefs of India will imitate the example of the Rajah of Kolapur, who intends sending a representative of his own to the National Congress.

A representative of the Rajah of Kolapur in the Congress.

DHUMKETU.

83. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th November, thus comments on the article headed "The English in India" recently published in the *Pioneer* news-

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 15th, 1887.

"The English in India."

paper :—

It is not true, as the writer of that article says, that as Anglo-Indians advance in years they cease to behave improperly towards the natives. The two principal English newspapers in this country, though edited by men who are not certainly youngsters of from 20 to 25, are notorious for their

habitual outbursts of ill-feeling against the natives. On the other hand, there can be no doubt, as the writer says, that it is the improper behaviour of Englishmen towards the natives of this country that has hitherto stood in the way of the growth of satisfactory relations between the two peoples. This is precisely the charge which this paper has more than once, brought against Englishmen in this country, but the charge has remained unheeded. There is abundant evidence to show that the natives revere those Englishmen who love them and speak kind words to them. The natives want only kind words and kind behaviour from Englishmen, and it is in the power of every Englishman to give them what they want. But it is to be regretted that no Englishman ever thinks of doing this.

The writer in the *Pioneer* is next addressed as follows:—

“Sir,—We do not know who you are. But you have won our hearts by what you have said. We admire you from the bottom of our hearts for your liberality and truthfulness. Every Indian will admit that so long as there are men like you among Englishmen their rule in India is safe. You are the glory of the English nation, and you are the object of our profound regard.”

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Nov. 16th, 1887.

84. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 16th November, thinks that the advice given to the people of India by Mr. Beck, the Principal of the Aligurh College, to discuss only social and domestic questions at the coming National Congress, and to concern themselves only about social reform, is extremely unsound and erroneous. Social questions cannot, in fact, be discussed at the Congress, because India does not consist of one homogeneous people with one religion and one set of customs and usages. Parsis, Hindus, Mussulmans—all are socially dissimilar, and none of them will allow questions relating to their own society to be discussed by the others in the Congress.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 16th, 1887.

85. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th November, considers that, like the proclamation which was lately issued in his name, the telegram which the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh is alleged to have addressed to the Nizam from Moscow, on the subject of his donation to the British Government, is also the forgery of some designing men. Can any one prove that the telegram has come from Moscow?

SAHACHAR.

86. The same paper says that in Madras the people have left aside all party-spirit in order to join the National Congress movement. There both Hindus and Mahomedans are taking equal interest in the matter. The Congress has received Lord Dufferin's countenance. And it is a most fortunate circumstance for it that the liberal-minded Lord Connemara, and not Mr. Grant Duff, is now the Governor of Madras. Lord Connemara has recently stated that “he will be anxious to know the opinions of the educated classes, for it is they that are thoughtful, and it is their opinions that are entitled to consideration.” And Lord Connemara sees that this National Congress has been inaugurated by the educated classes alone.

Mr. Beck of the Aligurh Mahomedan College has opposed the movement on the ground that the Congress is not a representative assembly and cannot be one for the simple reason that it consists only of educated men. This argument and certain others of the same nature made use of by Mr. Beck are preposterous in the extreme, and only prove the correctness of the remark which is frequently made regarding school-masters that they are utterly unfit to handle political questions.

Everywhere the educated classes represent all sections of the people. Not to speak of the English Parliament, even in the American Congress.

there are not members who are actual ploughmen. It is enough, if the man who represents a class is acquainted with all their wants and sympathises with them. It is on this principle that Government by representation is carried on in England. It is not true that the poor only can sympathise with the poor. Wilberforce was not a slave, and yet he fought for the slaves. Mr. Gladstone is not an Irishman, and yet he is fighting for the Irish ryot.

The people of India now want representative Legislative Councils only. They are not just now anxious to have a Parliament in India. They will, indeed, in proper time ask for a Parliament in India, but their present demand is very moderate. They now only demand that one half of the members of the Legislative Councils be appointed by Government and the other half be elected by the people. And this is the proposal which, among others, will be brought before Government by the Congress.

That this is a very fair and proper proposal to make will not be questioned by no well-wisher of India. That Mr. Beck objects to it is simply because he is not a well-wisher of India, because he has no Indian experience, and because he is a brainless man. It is rumoured that the Mahomedan community of Calcutta alone will send no representative to the Congress. If the rumour be correct, the leaders of that community must be pronounced to have committed a grave mistake. Do they think that the fact of their keeping aloof from the Congress will entitle them to some extraordinary consideration at the hands of Government? Mr. Amir Ali and others are really injuring their country and lowering themselves in the estimation of the Europeans.

87. Referring to Lady Dufferin's recent visit to the Ranis of Kap-purthalla, whom she induced to subscribe Rs. 1,000 in aid of her fund, the *Sulabh Samá-chár and Kushdaha*, of the 18th November, says that Her Ladyship is a woman of great tact and ability. The wives of high officials can easily do a great amount of good to the women of this country by visiting them as Lady Dufferin is doing.

SULABH SAMACHAR
& KUSHDAHA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

88. The *Samaya*, of the 18th November, referring to the very bright picture which M. Notovitch has drawn of the Czar of Russia in comparison with the English Government of this country says that the people of this country have no mind to live under the rule of the Czar even if he be a veritable god of heaven or an incarnation of kindness and justice. The Indians are a loyal and grateful people, and will never forget the good which the British Government has done to them. If the English think of leaving India of their own accord, the people of the country will hardly allow them to do so. When they say anything against Government, they certainly do not say it from any want of love for it, but only for the purpose of getting administrative evils corrected. Say what M. Notovitch may, the people of this country will never lose their national character and bear the shoes of the Czar on their head.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 18th, 1887.

89. The same paper has learnt from the *Central Indian News* that the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces has imprisoned the 200 men who had presented a petition against him to His Excellency the Viceroy. If this be true, then official oppression must be said to have reached its climax in India.

SAMAYA.

90. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th November, says that the object with which native members are taken into the Legislative Council is not now gained. These native members can exercise no power and are mere advisers of Government, whose views on important legislative measures they are often

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

compelled to adopt. As Mr. S. Iyer has observed, these native members often act under no sense of responsibility to anybody. To remove this anomaly, the National Congress proposes to increase the number of members in the Legislative Council, and to have one-half of them elected by the people. It cannot be said that the elected native members will be men of less ability than those who are nominated by Government. Again, if the elective system is introduced, the same men may be elected year after year, and thus the native members will acquire much experience of legislative work—an experience which they cannot gain under the present system, which requires that no member should be elected twice.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 19th, 1887.

91. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 19th November, complains that the climate of Baguri-Shamta, a village in Jessore, is very bad. The water of all the rivers, khals, beels and ponds is impure and unwholesome, and the prevalence of diseases in that part of the country is attributed to the use of this impure water for drinking purposes. The roads there are also out of repair. The authorities are requested to attend to the people's grievances.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Nov. 21st, 1887.

92. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 21st November, referring to the establishment of an association for the prevention of the use of intoxicating substances by the students of the Old Maldah School, says that it will not do to depend upon the Government for the suppression of the evils of intemperance, and that the country looks to its young men to endeavour to suppress those evils by means of such associations.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1887.

93. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 27th October, is under the impression that the Peshwaris, residing in Balasore, are leading questionable lives, and that they are either directly or indirectly connected with noted dacoities perpetrated in different parts of the town. It is therefore of opinion that the authorities should carefully watch their movements.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

94. All the native papers in Orissa speak approvingly of the preparations that are being made at Madras to secure success for the ensuing meeting of the National Congress that has been appointed to sit in that metropolis this cold weather, and hope that the people will get some substantial boon in the end.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

95. The same paper highly praises Mr. Tute, the Collector of Balasore, for his exertions on behalf of the local Mahomedans to facilitate whose education he has resolved to create a fund.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

96. An ignoble quarrel between the Joint-Secretaries of the Barabati Middle English School in Balasore is drawing a great deal of attention in the newspapers of Orissa. The Government grant of the school is under suspension, and the Joint and Deputy Inspectors concerned are engaged in examining its accounts. The influential position of the Joint-Secretaries, Kumar Baikant-nath De and Baboo Bhagaban Chandra Das, has given an air of importance to the quarrel, and the gentry of the Balasore town have joined either one side or the other as their interests lie.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

97. The same paper points out that the steamers plying in the coast canal between Calcutta and Cuttack do not reach the intermediate stations at the appointed hours, and the passengers waiting in those stations are thereby put to great inconvenience.

SANSKARAKA,
Oct. 27th, 1887.

98. In an article headed "The Sorrows of Orissa," the *Sanskāraka*, of the 27th October, points out that great injustice has been done to the educated Uriyas by appointing a foreigner to the post of the second master of the Puri zillah school. The appointment was made in a secret and informal manner, as no notice of the vacancy was given in the local papers. The editor therefore requests the Commissioner of Orissa to institute an enquiry into the matter, and to find out the reasons that led the Joint-Inspector of Schools to give preference to a foreigner over equally competent Uriya candidates.

An educational appointment.

99. The same paper gives a graphic description of the impending scarcity in Angul, and advises the authorities to make early arrangements to provide the people of that Killa with rice at a reasonable price. The editor has learnt that a large number of people in Angul are now subsisting on roots and fruits, their paddy plants having died for want of seasonable rainfall.

Sarcity in Angul.

SANSKARAKA.

100. The same paper, in another article headed "The Coming Famine," sounds alarming notes, and advises the authorities to put a stop to the export of rice from Orissa, as rice will be urgently required after a few weeks to support the famished people of Angul, Dhenkanal, and other parts of Orissa, where paddy-plants have died for want of water.

Export of rice from Orissa.

SANSKARAKA.

101. The same paper passes high encomiums on Mrs. Fraser of Kendrapara for her exertions in the interests of the Kendrapara girls' school which she is trying to place on a permanent footing.

Mrs. Fraser of Kendrapara.

SANSKARAKA.

102. The unexpected death of Raja Raghunath Man Sing Bhramarbar of Dompara is mourned by all the newspapers of Orissa, in which a favourable notice of his character is published.

An obituary notice.

SANSKARAKA.

103. The letter of Mr. Sorabjee of Bombay on the subject of protecting cows and she-buffaloes from indiscriminate slaughter by legislation has created a great deal of excitement among the editors of native papers in Orissa. The *Utkal Dīpikā*, of the 29th October, leads the van, and writes a long article on the subject, and it is followed by its contemporaries of the *Sanskāraka* and *Oriya*, which hold similar views. All of them agree in requesting the Supreme Legislative Council of India to enact a law on the lines indicated by Mr. Sorabjee.

Cow-slaughter.

UTKAL DĪPIKĀ,
Oct. 29th, 1887.

104. A new weekly paper, named the *Oriya*, has been started at Balasore from the 26th of October last. Among other things, it has made the "Welfare of Jagannath Pilgrims" its special subject of discussion. It is printed at De's Utkal Press, Balasore.

A new Uriya newspaper.

ORIYA,
Oct. 29th, 1887.

105. The same paper states upon personal knowledge that steamers plying in rivers or canals often anchor in deep water, while *dinglees* or country boats come up to them quickly to convey their passengers or goods to the bank. In many instances these boats capsize from various causes. It therefore proposes that the steamers should be compelled to unload their contents at the appointed jetties, which must tend to minimise such risks.

Steamers in rivers and canals.

ORIYA.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

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